

OPINION ON WAGES GIVEN BY RAILROAD BOARD

Attack the Theory of "the Living Wage" as a Basis for Determining Wages—Would Wreck Every Railroad in the United States, and Have a Tendency to Carry Other Industries Into Communistic Ruin—The Opinion is a Rejoinder to a Dissenting Opinion Filed by A. O. Wharton, Labor Member—Would Cause an Annual Deficit to the Railroads of \$2,589,639,518.

Chicago, Oct. 29 (By the A. P.)—Attacking the theory of "the living wage" as a basis for determining wages of railroad workers, the public and railroad groups of the railroad labor board in an opinion made public tonight declared such a course "if carried to its legitimate conclusion, would wreck every railroad in the United States and extend to other industries, would carry them into communistic ruin."

The opinion, in the form of a rejoinder to a dissenting opinion filed by A. O. Wharton, labor member, in the recent decision, increasing the way of maintenance of way employees two cents an hour, declared that if employees were granted a 12 to 15 cent wage for common labor with corresponding differentials for other classes, an increase of 12.5 per cent in the railroad wage bill would be necessary. This, the opinion said, would add \$2,589,639,518 to the annual payroll bringing it to \$3,589,639,518, thus forcing the carriers to face an annual deficit of \$2,589,639,518.

Even the 15 cent minimum wage requested by maintenance of way men were granted and corresponding differentials were made for other classes of employees, the opinion said, an increase of 15 per cent in wages would be necessary, adding \$1,249,819,781 to the annual wage bill of the roads, bringing it up to \$2,839,459,299, thus forcing the carriers to face an annual deficit of \$2,839,459,299.

"If the contents were that the board should establish a 'living wage' for the majority of the way men, the proposition," the opinion said, "as a matter of fact, the board in this instance as in all others has granted a living wage. But the abstract, elusive thing called 'the living wage' is based upon a makeshift and a guess, cannot receive the sanction of this board," the opinion stated. "The board would be utterly impracticable and would not be just and reasonable as the law demands."

Mr. Wharton's dissenting opinion and his supporting opinion in reply are attached to the majority opinion. He attacked the theory of "the living wage" as a basis for determining wages of railroad workers, the public and railroad groups of the railroad labor board in an opinion made public tonight declared such a course "if carried to its legitimate conclusion, would wreck every railroad in the United States and extend to other industries, would carry them into communistic ruin."

When the case came up, maintenance of way employees' board to attack the theory of "the living wage" as a basis for determining wages of railroad workers, the public and railroad groups of the railroad labor board in an opinion made public tonight declared such a course "if carried to its legitimate conclusion, would wreck every railroad in the United States and extend to other industries, would carry them into communistic ruin."

Mr. Wharton in his dissenting opinion maintained that the "fundamental error" of the decision rested on failure to inquire into the adequacy of rates of pay for maintenance of way employees. He asserted that rates of pay in other industries of similar character should be made a secondary consideration and that the prime factor to be considered was the cost of living.

The board he contended should find what should be a just and reasonable wage by computing a family budget containing the expenses of the average family.

Attacking the budget method of determining what should be a living wage, the supporting opinion says: "That it would be wise and practical to undertake to establish an arbitrary standard of living for several millions of persons is not apparent."

Adoption of a family of five with one wage earner as a basis for computing a living wage also was attacked in the opinion which asserted that the last census showed there were 4.4 persons in the average family, but 4 dependent children (instead of the three that the experts before the board took as a basis) and that there were 1.36 workers instead of one in the family.

Commenting upon government ownership of the living wage principal were established the opinion said: "Of course, for those who desire government ownership this would be a quick method of getting it, for it is a sure thing that the public would not stand for the imposition of higher rates to pay such a deficit."

Four Boys Killed by Gasoline Explosion

Somerville, Mass., Police Say the Boys Had Been Playing With Matches Near Tank.

Somerville, Mass., Oct. 29.—Three boys killed and one fatally injured by the explosion of a gasoline tank in the rear of Union square today. The fourth boy died early tonight. The police expressed the opinion that the boys had been playing with matches near the tank.

The victims were James Dwyer, Elmer Leard and Edward Fitzgerald, all of Somerville, and Lawrence C. Able, of Charlestown. They were about 14 years of age. John Brady of Somerville, a fifth boy was slightly injured and was taken to a hospital after he had run to a fire department station nearby and notified firemen of the accident. The Allen boy was pronounced dead on arrival at the hospital.

The 500 gallon tank had recently been excavated. The boys had been digging around it, it is believed, lighted matches lighting fumes. The explosion blew the boys a dozen feet and broke windows in houses 50 feet away.

EVENTS WHICH LED TO THE CARLETON-CHRISTIE TRAGEDY

Hartford, Conn., Oct. 29.—Dramatic details of events that led to the death of Mrs. Margaret Carleton and the Rev. Leonard Christie, pastor of St. Mark's church, in a house in Hartford, Conn., today were given by a coroner's jury in a verdict returned early today, that the tragedy was brought about by temporary mental derangement on the part of Mrs. Carleton.

The widow, Mrs. Anna W. Christie, in a calm modulated voice, described how she returned to her home about ten o'clock last Friday evening to find a light. Calling O. C. Hauge, a neighbor, she said she stationed him on the front porch while she entered. She testified that she found Mrs. Carleton, wife of former District Judge Frank Carleton, destroying a picture of Dr. Christie and admonished her to stop. The witness added that Mrs. Carleton seemed anything but in her right mind.

Finally, Mrs. Christie said she persuaded Mrs. Carleton to leave with her, talking toward the town's business section, where they met Rev. Christie who was with Rev. Chapman of Butte, Mrs. Carleton was left down town, she continued, the other returned to the Christie home. Later Mrs. Carleton called at the Christie home, Mrs. Christie testified.

The witness testified in describing the conversation, but in answer to questions replied: "Mrs. Carleton declared that I had no place in Mr. Christie's life."

The witness said that while Mrs. Carleton made no threats, she did most of the talking.

Mr. Christie arose and started for his sleeping room, Mrs. Christie said, and Mrs. Carleton, also arose as if to depart. Mrs. Christie said she opened the front door with her back to Mrs. Carleton, who then followed Mrs. Christie.

Then came two quick revolver reports, Mrs. Christie said. She turned to see Mrs. Carleton fall in the doorway of a small hall leading into the bath room and into Mr. Christie's room, she testified.

Mrs. Christie said she saw that Mrs. Carleton was dead and stepping over the body to get to Mr. Christie, but the woman's body had fallen so as to partly block the door. She then called the police and physicians, she stated.

Mr. Hauge confirmed Mrs. Christie's story. He said that last Sunday about four o'clock, he had seen Mrs. Carleton trying to enter the Christie home.

Mrs. P. E. Martin, librarian, and a personal friend of Mrs. Carleton, described Mrs. Carleton's condition Friday night. Going to Mrs. Carleton's hotel room in response to a call she found her in bed, suffering from a nervous condition.

The Rev. Mr. Christie was the trying to quiet Mrs. Carleton, the witness testified.

According to Mrs. Martin, Mrs. Carleton told her that she had taken an overdose of sleeping powder. Mr. Christie left shortly after she had prepared food for Mrs. Carleton, she said.

BRIEF TELEGRAMS

The eastern frontier of Poland will henceforth be protected so thoroughly to prevent any bands crossing over from the Soviet Ukraine.

Injuries received in football resulted in the death of Wayne Howard, 18 year old ward of the National training school for boys in Washington.

Production of rice, barley and potatoes for all countries reporting is larger than for the same countries last year, the department of agriculture announced.

Establishment of a direct line to Manila from North Atlantic ports with sailing every six days beginning November 10 was announced by the shipping board.

Postmaster John E. Smith died at his home in Pittsburg, Mass., after a long illness. He was for many years prominent in the municipal, social and business life of Pittsburg.

Examination of Ralph A. Day, federal prohibition director for New York state, on a citation for contempt of court was postponed by Judge Foster until today at Mr. Day's request.

In Vladivostok red flags are flying everywhere. A new revolution has been formed by Chairman Nizhichen of the people's revolutionary party in the maritime province.

Max Tamm, rancher and grape grower, was drowned in a seven foot wine vat at Napa, Calif. It is thought he sought to stir the wine which was fermenting.

October heat records were set at points in Missouri Saturday, the thermometer recorded 86 degrees at Topeka and 85 in Kansas City.

Winter was paying a tentative visit to the North Pacific coast Saturday, while rain prevailed in parts of California. The first snow of the season fell at Ellensburg, Wash.

Sulzys C. Edgar, capitalist and former president of the Edgar Zinc company, was found shot to death in the kitchen of his home in Oswego, Kansas just as a man, believed to be John E. Lee, of Lancaster, Pa., committed suicide by going over the Falls.

James Zink died suddenly during the Otago, N. Z., school high school football game in Otago, New Zealand, his son, Curtis Zink, Otago quarter-back, carried the ball to a point near the opponent's goal in a spectacular run.

William P. Steinberg of Newwood was killed when his automobile side-swiped a truck standing on Washington street in Dedham, Mass. The car was broken when he was hurled to the road.

The finding of a man's coat and hat and papers near Goat Island bridge, New York, N. Y., indicates that a man, believed to be John E. Lee, of Lancaster, Pa., committed suicide by going over the Falls.

The Dodge, a sixty foot motor launch, whose skipper declared she was not a run-runner, but just a "good samaritan of the seas" was towed into New York by the tugboat Hansen, and her cargo of 1200 cases of whiskey confiscated.

Talking moving pictures were shown probably for the first time in New Haven on Friday night at a public meeting in the Y. M. C. A. building. The pictures were of the Pacific section and the Y. M. C. A. American Institute of Electrical Engineers.

Shop employees of the Illinois Central railroad, who went on strike in 1911, but who remained faithful to the road and refused to join the shop crafts' walkout last July will be restored to all pension rights and former seniority.

A marked increase since 1914 in the number of American firms and persons doing business in China is shown by a report received by the department of commerce.

The Swiss budget estimates for 1923 forecast a deficit of \$3,300,000 francs. Revenue is estimated at \$43,100,000 francs against an expenditure of \$46,400,000.

Five Eskimo tribes who had never seen a white man were encountered by Knud Rasmussen, the Danish explorer, in a trip of 3,000 kilometers from Admiration inlet at the northern part of Baffin land to Yath-Kyed Lake, Kootenai.

Captain Kleckmann and two of his officers of the German tanker Oberon are at liberty in Houston, Tex., on \$500 bonds in connection with the seizure of the ship and 100 quarts of bonded whiskey, 88 quarts of mixed liquor and two ounces of cocaine.

Princess Hermine of Reuss, who is soon to become the bride of the former German emperor, seems to feel that while she secluded home at Doorn is a nice restful place, and all that she would not want to live there every day in the year.

Millions and billions mean little nowadays in reckoning the affairs of the Russian soviet government, according to financial columns in the Soviet press. Report to the workers' and peasants' parliament he estimated that the soviet rubles now in circulation total 1,182 trillions.

Declaring that he would drive every member of the Ku Klux Klan from the state in six months if he could get the laws of the state behind him, Governor Henry J. Allen of Kansas denounced the organization at a political meeting before a large audience in Winfield, Kansas.

Sentences imposed upon three officials of the Schaller Brewing company, Cincinnati, by Federal Judge Peck are said to be the first sentences of the kind pronounced in the United States against brewery heads for violation of the Volstead act.

A body believed to be that of George Harvey of Toronto, who served with the First Canadian Division, was held in Boston for positive identification. In a weakened condition the man was picked up in the streets a few days ago and died in a hospital.

The death of Henry Lorenz, 114 years old farmer of Pleasantville, North Saskatchewan, is reported in Saskatchewan. According to family records he was born in Austria May 9, 1808. Up to a year ago Lorenz was a heavy smoker, but the increased price of the weed caused him to stop.

A resolution regarding the "emphatic opinion" of the American College of Surgeons "that the modern progress in medicine and surgery is due very largely to research by experiments on animals" was passed at the annual meeting of the congress which closed its sessions in Boston.

Fascist Leader to Organize Ministry

King Victor Emmanuel Has Requested Mussolini to Assume the Task—Consents.

Rome, Oct. 29.—(By The A. P.)—After the refusal of Antonio Salandra, former premier, to organize a ministry, the king called on Mussolini, the Fascist leader, to assume the task. It is expected that Mussolini will arrive here this evening and if he accepts the king's invitation, all further need for Fascist action will be ended. Their entrance into Rome will be the simple evidence of their victory.

Deputy Chiosso, describing the situation this morning, said that southern Italy had been "isolated" from the rest of the country by bands of Fascist commanded by Deputy Caradonnio. Other bands were encircling the towns in Basilicata and Calabria. The Fascist had occupied the airfield at Foggia, Tuscany and Umbria were entirely theirs. A semi-official statement denied sensational rumors of a military revolution. Particularly a report that King Victor Emmanuel had been assassinated. The statement added that with the exception of certain isolated incidents of an unruly character, the country was absolutely tranquil and the cabinet crisis was approaching a solution.

Rome today bore its usual Sunday aspect. The houses were decorated with flags and crowds were gaily parading the main thoroughfares awaiting the entry of the Fascist. Some of the police and military measures of yesterday had been withdrawn; motor buses were again in service, but armed patrols were still to be seen in the streets. Cavalry occupied the strategic points and the entire garrison was kept in readiness.

Yesterday soldiers proceeded to the outskirts of the town and set up barbed wire entanglements; the railroad lines were closely guarded and all bridges over the Tiber were shut off with wire and protected by machine guns. The various ministerial and public buildings were occupied by troops, and the police cut off the central part of the city with barbed wire entanglements.

A group of Fascist succeeded today in what had been for a long time their ardent desire—the occupation of the offices of the pro-socialist newspaper. The offices of the "Avanti" were occupied by them and the copies of the paper they could find and maintained their occupation of the offices, in order to prevent any further issues of the paper.

Milan is full of excitement, who have assembled there from the neighboring provinces," continued Deputy Chiosso, who fought in the World war, was wounded and decorated with two orders of the leaders of the movement. "We met with a certain amount of resistance in Turin from the authorities. The Fascist in the Julian provinces, have mobilized and occupied the strategic points in the Alps in order to face any coup d'etat by the slaves. Troops occupied by Fascist under Deputy De Bonis. Bergamo is a leading Fascist center, dominating the entire central Italy. Our headquarters, Viale Balbo, were yesterday from Perugia to Foligno, 100 miles from Rome, where 15,000 Fascist are concentrated under command of Generals Zamboni and Novelli.

"At Monte Rotondo, 16 miles from Rome, 1,000 men under command of Lieutenant General, one of the few decorated with the gold medal for valor are awaiting General Fera, with whom they will march to Rome. Lieutenant General arrested Colonel Milano, of the 16th Regiment of Infantry, who had been up several sections of the railroad to prevent the Fascist from entraining for Rome. Milano was granted military honors and kept a prisoner on parole; he has been told that he would be released Sunday when it was too late for him to do any harm.

The Fascist at Santa Marinella, 45 miles from Rome, are concentrated to the number of 150,000. As one approach to Rome the first detachments of royal guards appear, they look upon the Fascist without hostility. Italo Balbo told the royal guards that the Fascist of Rome was nothing short of ludicrous. Up to the present the only victims of our search on Rome have been a number of calves and hundered, but paid for to feed on rorpo.

"The only thing the Fascist have had to complain of since the beginning of the insurrectional movement has been the lack of food. Yesterday I received a letter, to the great misery of our men sleeping in the open around Rome, but today the golden Roman sun shined again, and the Fascist triumphantly entered into the Eternal City."

"REVOLUTION" IN ITALY WAS WITHOUT DISORDER

Rome, Oct. 29.—(By The A. P.)—If what has been styled "a revolution" in Italy can be called a "revolution," the revolution is over, and must have greatly disappointed all who have a classical idea of the word. The Fascist, Mussolini, leader of the Fascist, has been invited by King Emmanuel to come to Rome; he will be entrusted with the formation of a ministry to take the place of the Fascist ministry, which withdrew under pressure of this far-spreading movement.

With the exception of a small minority, all agreed that Mussolini, in view of the situation and must assume power and responsibility of carrying out the programme for which the Fascist have fought.

Professor Mussolini, on receiving the king's invitation, went first to Lake Garda, to see Gabriele D'Annunzio, the poet-soldier, to discuss with him the formation of a new ministry. It is believed that they reached a complete accord, because he is reported to have left for Rome on a special train which was put at his disposal, royal military honors being rendered him both by the Fascist and the king's troops.

The announcement that Mussolini had been officially entrusted with the formation of a cabinet immediately caused all agitation to subside; the military authorities revoked all prohibitions issued yesterday, and the Fascist, who during the night had occupied the military Fort Marmorio on a hill dominating Rome, returned it with all friendliness to the military forces.

FASCIST WILL SUPPORT THE MONARCHIAL REGIME

Rome, Oct. 29.—Deputy Di Vecchi, one of the supreme military authorities of the Fascist party, had an important interview with the king today. He insisted on the highly patriotic aims of the Fascist, who, he declared, had no intention of upsetting the institutions of Italy or the monarchial regime, only wishing to cleanse Italian public life and to infuse a new purifying spirit.

In saying Signor Di Vecchi showed intense emotion, and the king also was moved. He embraced Di Vecchi, declaring that while scrupulously observing the Italian constitution, he would give Italy a government most suited to the new spirit pervading the country.

APPEALING CHARACTERISTICS OF NEW BRITISH PREMIER

Part of the Political Campaign is to be Devoted to an Appraisal of Andrew Bonar Law—In Temperament the New Prime Minister is Directly Opposite to Lloyd George—It is Generally Conceded That if the Nation Wants Tranquility Bonar Law is the Man to Sustain.

London, Oct. 29 (By the A. P.)—Not the least part of the political campaign will be devoted to an appraisal of the new premier, Andrew Bonar Law, who has been singled out by his partisans, "to champion the cause of tranquility and safety first."

In high political quarters it is declared that if tranquility is what the nation wants it must be conceded that a better man could not be chosen to epitomize this desire. These quarters assert that, however much his friends and enemies disagree on Bonar Law's other personal characteristics, they are united in agreeing that he represents steadfastness, straightforwardness, apoliticality and sincerity, that he has all the attributes of tranquility.

Bonar Law's friends, points with pride to his qualities as a blessed relief from the noisy clamor of Lloyd George. Bonar Law has been accused at frequent intervals of taking a real-estate, longing for repose.

There seems to be a considerable element of the population, however, not content to see the new premier, who harbors the belief that under Bonar Law's leadership the pendulum may swing too far in the other direction and who fear that this may result not in stable peace, but in wholesale political lethargy, or even positive reaction.

This feeling was humorously given voice to the other day by Mr. Lloyd George himself, while attending an oyster-bake given in his honor, remarked in effect, "I am very fond of oysters, and of all other mollusks who are exponents of tranquility."

That say should be guilty of Bonar Law, was an extreme way of emphasizing the premier's quietness; but neither criticism admit that this is one of his outstanding characteristics. They point out that his quietness, however, is not a magnetic speaker, he always has been interested in affairs of state and never been averse to holding political prestige.

One newspaper said Bonar Law became premier since his "meek ambition" might be called his most obvious quality. Although, as has been declared, his and Lloyd George's policies are almost indistinguishable, the premier also plays an efficient golf game.

Born in Canada of Scotch parents, Bonar Law came to Glasgow as a boy. Later he was given an honorary degree of doctor of laws by Glasgow university and was destined to become its local factor for several years before even after he entered politics. He was not considered an unusually brilliant student, but was a representative of the type of sturdy intellectuality. Although not a magnetic speaker, he always has been interested in affairs of state and never been averse to holding political prestige.

At his new residence in Downing street, Bonar Law has arranged to be relieved as much as possible from the cares of the social side of the premiership. He has selected his daughter, Lady Sybil, as social mistress of No. 10 Downing street.

The new premier does not "go in for" society to any great extent. Aside from some friendly game of golf or a quiet game of chess or bridge with select friends at the small club to which he belongs, Bonar Law is quite content to remain in his study and not mingle with the crowd. Being a widower, he has no many social responsibilities in his home life; he does not entertain a great deal, nor does he accept many social engagements. It has been suggested by some persons that Bonar Law even looks uncomfortable in a top hat.

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Physicians at the Bryn Mawr hospital continued puzzled over the action and the peculiar symptoms of the poison. They were not prepared, however, to assert that it was some rare or little known drug. An autopsy was performed on Mr. Sterrett's body this afternoon, but no announcement has yet been made.

Mrs. Sterrett was said tonight to show some improvement.

The cake was received at the Sterrett home in Devon Thursday afternoon. It was made from Philadelphia in a box which bore no marks by which it might be identified. It came by special delivery. The box was wrapped in brown paper. Inside the large box were two smaller ones, each containing a cake similar to wedding cake, golden brown with white icing. On each box was written the name of the two victims.

Believing that the cake had been sent by friends who had overlooked placing some sort of message with it, the couple ate it.

According to physicians the undetermined poison acted differently upon Mr. Sterrett and his wife. He became violently ill a short time after eating the cake, while Mrs. Sterrett became ill and sleepy, and acted as if she had been drugged.

Mrs. Sterrett's condition was such that he was taken to the hospital promptly. She was not until last night that his wife sank into a stupor and was also brought to the hospital.

Mrs. Sterrett's brother, who has been associated with her in business, has indicated his belief that different poisons were in each piece of cake. He visited the hospital for the purpose of questioning Mrs. Sterrett concerning any remarks she had made, saying that she was sufficiently recovered to answer questions.

Mrs. N. J. Gillies, postmistress at Bryn Mawr said Mrs. Sterrett on receiving the package expressed surprise, saying that the handwriting was unfamiliar.

The Sterretts have resided in Devon about a year, having previously dwelt in Philadelphia.

NEWLY MARRIED COUPLE FOUND DEAD IN YONKERS

Yonkers, N. Y., Oct. 29.—Daniel Cohen, 23, a draftsman, and his bride of a month, Frances Cohen, 24, were found dead tonight in the bathroom of their apartment in Asborton avenue.

The bride's body was found under water in the bathtub, and that of her husband stretched out on the floor. They were discovered by Mrs. B. Cohen, Mr. Cohen's mother, who forced an entrance into the house.

Coroner Snowden, and the police began an immediate investigation.

The theory of poison was suggested by officials because of the absence of any signs of violence or marks of any conclusive character on the bodies, which were unclad. A slight disorientation on Mr. Cohen's right hand and some evidence that Mrs. Cohen had been held under water were the only outward clues discovered.

Mrs. B. R. Cohen said her son's marriage had seemed especially happy.

OWNERS CHANGING MATURING SECURITIES FOR NEW ISSUES

Washington, Oct. 29.—Owners of \$252,000,000 in 4-2-4 Victory notes and treasury certificates have exchanged these maturing securities for new issues of the thirty year 4-1-4 per cent treasury bond issue. Secretary Mellon announced today that the new 4-1-4 per cent bond issue total \$163,650,000, since costs of subscriptions of \$111,500,000 have been accepted.

FOURTEEN CONSTANTINE DESTROYED IN ATHENS

Athens, Oct. 29 (By the A. P.)—After listening today to a public oration by a prominent Venizelist, who also claimed the achievements of the revolution and the conditions of the former regime, a great audience demanded the death of the statesman now under arrest. Later they began rioting and destroyed all the portraits of Constantine.

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